

MAR 15 1924 ✓

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PAGAN PASSIONS ✓

*Photoplay* ✓  
Six reels ✓

Directed by Colin Campbell ✓

Author of the photoplay (under Section 62) ✓

Rellimeo Film Syndicate of U.S. ✓



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# PAGAN PASSIONS

✓ Story by ~~the~~

MAR 15 1924

Grace Sanderson Michie

## Synopsis

The subtle, deteriorating influence of the tropics has been undermining Dreka and Frank Langley, both morally and physically since they came to live on the Malay peninsula. Frank is drinking heavily and Dreka flirting wildly. One day Frank comes home unexpectedly and finds Dreka jazzing with another man. He orders the young fellow from his house and maddened by drink and Dreka's insolence, he chokes her brutally. She threatens to leave him and overcome by remorse he shoots himself.

Dreka starts for the home in China of her brother, Dr. Trask. On the way there her son is born in a native hut. The baby's tiny throat bears the imprint of clutching fingers. This birthmark turns Dreka against her child and when she is strong enough to continue her journey, she leaves him with a Chinese woman.

John Dangerfield with his wife and baby daughter, Shirley, ~~near~~  
neighbors of Dr. Trask and Dreka uses her brother's intimacy with them  
to ensnare John Dangerfield. ~~XX~~  
One night Mrs. Dangerfield and Dr. Trask discover Dangerfield kissing  
Dreka. The doctor orders his sister from his house; while Mrs.  
Dangerfield takes her little daughter and goes to California.

After Mrs. Dangerfield obtains her divorce, John marries Dreka. Like many other social outcasts they sink lower and lower until a few years later they are living in drunken squalor in a dingy room above a Chinese dive. An old friend offers Dangerfield an opportunity to rehabilitate himself, but Dreka, crazed by drink, refuses to ~~g~~ consider the proposition and to prevent Dangerfield from accepting it, she stabs him, sets fire to the room and flees into the darkness.

Dangerfield is rescued and fights his way upward until he occupies his old position in the world. He adopts Billy - a lonely little lad, whom he finds in a Chinese monastery - never dreaming that the supposed half-caste child is Dreka's son.

Eventually Billy goes to college in Los Angeles where he meets,



and falls in love with, Shirley Dangerfield. He confides in his adopted father, who not knowing that the girl is his own daughter, assures Billy that he is as good as any one and not to hesitate to propose, but alas, when Billy takes Dangerfield to call on Shirley and her mother, the man recognizes his first wife for whom he has never ceased to care. With true masculine inconsistency Dangerfield feels that while it would be all right for Billy to marry another man's daughter, he cannot permit his own child to <sup>wed</sup> ~~MARRY~~ a half-caste boy. He breaks his decision as gently as possible to the crushed and bewildered Billy, who rushes from the room declaring that if he is Chinese, he will live among his own people. He returns to China and dressed in the native costume he wanders around the poorer quarters of the city near which he had been born.

The years have <sup>dragged</sup> ~~dragged~~ Dreka deeper and deeper into the mire until the grave is her only hope. ~~Finally she can stand her miserable existence no longer~~ <sup>she</sup> and determines to drown herself. Just as she is tottering on the brink Billy, who is passing, catches her in his arms, crying involuntarily, "Mother!" To Dreka's amazed query as to why he had called her mother, he replies, "I don't know; I guess because I have always wanted a mother."

Billy had made an enemy of the Chinese owner of the dive which Dreka frequents because the <sup>Oriental</sup> ~~CHINESE~~ thinks that Billy's good influence is driving away the den's customers. One day infuriated by what he considers Billy's unwarranted interference in his affairs, the Chinaman orders his thugs to get the boy. In the midst of the furious struggle which follows, Dreka sees the Chinaman draw a gun. She springs in front of Billy and receives the bullet which was intended for him.

At that moment Dangerfield, who had come to China in search of Billy, rushes into the dive. He helps to carry the mortally wounded Dreka into an adjoining room. As Billy is bending over her, Dreka notices the birthmark on his throat. "Who are you?" she asks. ~~"Just a Chinese boy,"~~ Billy replies.

"No, you are my son!" Dreka exclaims, fearing that he will turn from her, but Billy takes her into his arms. "I don't care what you have done. You are my mother and I love you."

(Pagan Passions

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Synopsis)

Secure in his affection, Dreka dies happy and Billy and Dangerfield start for California to marry the women of their hearts.



Washington, D. C.

MAR 15 1924

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Washington, D. C.

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PAGAN PASSIONS, six reels

Respectfully,

FULTON BRYLAWSKI

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Pagan Passions	3-15-24	©CIL 19991

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